

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants respectfully request allowance of allowable claims 1-49, 51, 52 and 54-56 that are pending in the above-identified patent application. Applicants have canceled rejected claims 50 and 53 without prejudice.

Applicants also respectfully request the Examiner to transmit to Applicants a copy of the initialized PTO-1449 form that was transmitted with Applicants' amendment dated June 26, 2003. As the Examiner may recall, Applicant had submitted references in connection with an Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 17, 2004 without a separate listing of the submitted references. Such separate listing (PTO-1449 form) was sent via Communication on June 26, 2003, along with Applicants' prior Amendment of the same date.

Reexamination and reconsideration of the present application, pursuant to an consistent with 37 C.F.R. § 1.112, and in light of the amendments and remarks herein, are respectfully requested. Because the present claims are now in condition for allowance as having been allowed by the Examiner in the Office Action of July 1, 2004, good cause exists for the entry of this amendment in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the presently pending claims are now in condition for allowance. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that she telephone Applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

Application No.: 09/341,324

Docket No.: SONYSU 3.3-043

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: August 13, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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